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A

JOURNAL of the ESTHER BRIG,

Captain Thomas Forreſt,

From BENGAL to QUEDAH.

1783.

Publiſhed at the *Charge* of the EAST-INDIA COMPANY

by

Dalrymple.

1788.

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THE intention of this Voyage was, a SURVEY of the ANDAMAN ISLANDS, but Capt. *Forreſt* left BENGAL on the 14th June, a very improper time for ſuch a deſtination; and Capt. *Forreſt* does not ſeem to have been aware, either at *leaving* BENGAL, or in the Courſe of his Voyage, of the hazard he ran of falling to leeward of the ISLANDS, to which he was bound; for it appears, from the *brief Abſtract* of his Journal, that he did not take the advantage of the Winds, which he ſometimes had at *South*, to ſtand to the *Weſtward*; and he ought, at the ſeaſon he left BENGAL, to have gone, at leaſt, as far *Weſtward* as *Point Palmiras*, before he put out to Sea: The natural conſequence enſued; Capt. *Forreſt*, inſtead of the ANDAMAN ISLANDS, made the PREPARIES; went to *Leeward*, i. e. to the *Northward*, of NARCONDAM: and on 1ſt July, ſaw the *Island* TORES, on the *Coaſt* of TANNASERIM: Whether *this Appellation* may be prolonged to the *Coaſt* as far *Southward* as JUNKSEYLON, I confeſs I am in doubt; however, Capt. *Forreſt* has thus underſtood it; for he ſo denominates the *Coaſt*, along which he paſt within the *Iſlands*, called CLARA, ST. SUSANNA, ST. MATHEW, and ALADI, in the *Charts*.

The *Country Names* of *Places*, being ſo deſireable for the *preciſion* of *Geographic Hiſtory*, I have thought it beſt to omit the many names of European Individuals, which Capt. *Forreſt* has applied to the various Iſlands he ſaw: and to ſubſtitute letters of reference to a Liſt, wherein the names, Capt. *Forreſt* has aſſigned, will appear for the elucidation of his Journal: This is more particularly neceſſary, as Capt. *Forreſt* has removed the name *Clara* from the PRINCIPAL ISLAND to a TRIVIAL ONE, giving the PRINCIPAL ISLAND the name of SULIVAN; and calling, what former Charts name *St. Suſanna*, *Sir William James's Iſland*. I have continued the names formerly aſſigned to the *Iſlands*, for the readily perceiving the ſituation in M. *D'Anville*, or in *Major Rennell's* Map: It may however be proper to obſerve, that M. *D'Aprés*, and His *Tranſlator*, apply the name *Clara*, apparently to the *ſame Iſland* that Capt. *Forreſt* does, and not to the PRINCIPAL ISLAND, calling IT *Domel*, which M. *D'Anville* names *Clara*, or *Ilha do Mel*, i. e. *Honey Iſland*: Whether M. *D'Anville* has appropriated erroneouſly *two names* to *one Iſland*, or M. *D'Aprés* ſynonimous names of *one* Iſland to *two*, or whether *Domel* be a *Native Name*, or *corrupted Portugueſe*, I will not preſume to ſay: Capt. *Forreſt* aſſigns the name *Dommel*,

to

to an *Iſland* to the *Eaſtward* of what M. *D'Aprés* calls *Domel*, and M. *D'Anville Clara*, or *Ilha do Mel*: but Capt. *Forreſt*, who ſpeaks doubtfully, and from verbal report of C. *Moulin*, may have applied to part of the *Main*, what C. *Moulin* mentioned of the *Iſland* to which Capt. *Forreſt* has given the name of *Sulivan*, and M. *D'Aprés* that of *Domel*: I have however, in conſequence of this ambiguity, called the PRINCIPAL ISLAND, I. DO MEL, and applied the name *Clara*, to *that* ſo named by M. *D'Aprés*, and by Capt. *Forreſt*.

Amongſt C. *Forreſt's* names, there are many *deſcriptive*, Theſe I have thought it right to inſert in *his Charts*.

The Extent of the *Firth*, Capt. Forreſt navigated, being above 2° in Latitude, when engraved on a commodious ſcale to expreſs every object delineated by him, would be too long for *one Plate*; I therefore thought it moſt expedient to engrave it upon *three*, which may be paſted together by thoſe who are ſo inclined, an uniformity of margin being preſerved for that purpoſe; and a faint line being marked acroſs, where they moſt conveniently join.

The 1ſt Plate from 11.° 37′ N to 10.° 56′ N Latitude contains the *Northern part* of the PRINCIPAL ISLAND to *Marble Harbour*.

The 2d Plate, repeats a ſmall part of Plate 1ſt comprehending *Marble Harbour*, and contains the remainder of the PRINCIPAL ISLAND with *thoſe* to ST. MATHEW inclusive, from 11.° N to 9.° 30′ N.

The 3d Plate, repeating a ſmall part of Plate 2d, extends from 9.° 31′ N to 8.° 49′ N and contains the *Aladi* or *Aladin*[a] *Iſlands*.

As Capt *Forreſt* carried with him from England a *Chronometer* it is much to be regretted he had it not with him in this Voyage, as it would have preciſely eſtabliſhed the *Longitudes* of that part of the *Bay* of *Bengal*, which is wanting, viz. from *Negrais* to *Queda*: This Chronometer, indeed, fell into very good hands, for it was purchaſed by Lieut. *I. S. Ewart*, who made very good uſe of it, during two years in *Bengal*, and the interiour part of *India*; and then, as he informs me, ſpared

[a] I find them *ſo named* in ſome Journals as well as by Capt. *Forreſt*; but I am ignorant if *this* be the *true name*, or a *corruption* of *it*? D.

ſpared it to one of the Veſſells gone to the NW. *Coaſt* of *America*, from which *Geography* has therefore much to expect.

I have not ſeen the Views to which Capt. *Forreſt's* Journal refers, *His Drawings* tho' Sketches, are uſually in a maſterly ſtile, I wiſh therefore I had them to lay before the Publick, but *his Conduct*, or *that* of the *Adminiſtration* in *Bengal*, concerning this Voyage, is very reprehenſible; for *no Copy*, *even* of the CHART, has been ſent to The Company, tho' executed at their expence; and the Publick are now indebted for it, to *Mr. Stables*, who moſt obligingly communicated it to me. Capt. *Forreſt* was ſo good to deſire Mrs. Forreſt to give me a Copy of the *Journal*, ſoon after his return to *Bengal*, in 1784, but not having ſeen the *Chart*, 'till very lately, I thought it would be uſeleſs to publiſh the *Journal* without it.

I have never, before, ſeen any *Chart* of *theſe Iſlands*, with *Soundings*, and conſequently this *Sketch*, by Capt. *Forreſt*, is a valuable addition to *Hydrography*, and has a good claim to the Publick approbation.

Dalrymple.

NAMES

NAMES from Captain *Forreſt's* JOURNAL,

correſponding to the *Letters* in *His* CHART.

a	Tarepchar I.	Pl. 1.
b	SULIVAN's I.	
c	Garden Iſlands	Pl. 2.
d	Pulteney's I.	
e	Cook's I.	
f	Egles I.	
g	Crichton's I.	
h	Gregorio I.	
k	Solander's I.	
l	Banks's I.	
m	LOUGHBOROUGH I.	
n	SIR WILLIAM JAMES's I.	
p	Crip's I.	
q	Kelſul's I.	
r	Ruſſel's I.	
s	Phipps's I.	
t	Barwell's I.	
u	Haſtings's I.	
v	Duncan's Sugar Loaf	
w	Davis's I.	
x	Dunkin's I.	
y	Watſon's I.	
z	Deliſle's I.	
aa	Bruer's I.	Pl. 3.
ab	Auriol's I.	
ac	Graham's I.	
ad	Chriſtie's I.	
ae	Alexander's I.	
af	Hay's I.	
ag	Lrinnox's I.	
ah	Keble's I.	

I have exactly followed the *names* in the MS *Chart*, tho' I preſume ſome are erroneous.

THE

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Saturday June 14th. THE Pilot having been ſent on board a Snow, that was paſſing, by our own Boat.

At 2 PM we ⊢ on the *Eaſtern Sea-Reef*, in 10 fm. *ſand*.

At 10 weighed with the *Ebb Tide*, and lay up SSE before Noon---made a SE Courſe 45 Miles.

15th. The firſt part moderate, the latter hard Squalls with rain, Thunder and Lightning, our Courſe to day was SEbE 70 Miles, had no Obſervation.

16th. Southerly winds moſtly, with Calms, made an ESE Courſe and run 40 Miles.

17th. Much rain and many Squalls from the Southward, towards Noon Calm, had a great ſwell; Courſe SE 30′.

18th. Variable Winds and calms, the Sea much fallen, dried our Spare Sails, and many other things, that had got wet and mouldy by the late damp weather. To day many Sharks were about the Ship, hitherto have had no Obſervation to be depended on, to day found we were in 18° 38′. Our Meridian diſtance from the *Fair-way* being 2° 55′.

Thurſday 19th. Variable Winds, with Squally weather and rain, run only 57 Miles.

A Freſh

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Friday June 20th. Freſh gales and dark cloudy weather, ran 79′, on different Courſes, moſtly SE; had no Obſervation.

21ſt. Freſh Breezes and fair weather the firſt part, from midnight the wind increaſed to a very freſh gale, lay to 3 Hours in the Night, wind at South; had no Obſervation.

22d. Freſh gales at SSW, lay up SE; to day our Meridian diſtance from the *Fair-way* was 3° 12′, our Lat. 16° 47′ by a good Obſervation.

23d. Moderate weather, ran SEbS 96 Miles Lat. 15° 43′

24th. Moderate weather, lay up South, wind WSW; at Night lay to ſome time, on account of the *Preparis Rocks.*

At Day light Saw *Them* to Leeward.

Noon our Latitude was 14° 40′

The S° end of *Preparis* bearing	NE½E 10′
A *Rock* in one with a *Spot* of *Sand* above water .	ENE 6′
and *Two Iſlots*, disjunct from the *main Iſland*, bearing when in one	NEbN

See View Letter C, where the *Iſlots* are open, and conſequently bear different in the view.

I find

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I find no current in my run from the *Eaſtern Sea-Reef*, making the *Preparis* lye 4.° 30′ E of *It*; the run not to be depended on.

Wedneſday June 25th. Freſh Breezes and cloudy weather.

Saw *Narcondam*, it makes like a *Cone*, with the Top Obliquely cut off, bearing S.°

At Noon *It* bore SbW 8 Leagues.

26th. Freſh breezes from the SW, with rain; lay up SE loſt ſight of *Narcondam*.

27th. Freſh gales from the SW, with heavy Squalls and Rain, it Sometimes ſhifted to the NW, and blew hard; we were often obliged to run E and ESE, under main and fore ſtay-ſails, as there ran a great Sea.

28th. Hard Squalls from the SW to the NW, and heavy rain.

At 8 PM lay to under main and fore ſtay-ſails.

At 8 AM made ſail; had no Obſervation.

29th. Hard Squalls from the SW, and heavy rain from the SW.

At 6 PM lay to, under main and fore ſtay-ſails, at Night under bare Poles.

At

1783 At 4 AM hauled the Fore ſtay-ſail down, juſt after ſetting it, Battend down the Hatches, there being a great confuſed Sea.

At 11 AM Made ſail, ſtanding Weſt, wind at South.

June 30th. Heavy Squalls, with much rain, in the Afternoon we were under a fore ſtay-ſail only; towards Noon more moderate, lay up SE. Lat 12° 9′ N.

July 1ſt. Squally, with heavy Rain, about Midnight handed all Our Sails, but Main and Fore Stay-Sails.

At 1 Set them again.

At 2 was obliged to lay to as before under Main and Fore Stay-ſail.

At 5 It was moderate, made ſail to the SE, wind at SWbS.

At Noon Saw the Iſland *Tores* bearing E 5 or 6 Leagues off, ſame time *Button Iſland* bore EbS. No Obſervation.

2d. Squally rainy weather, lay up SSE; the wind came ſometimes to Weſt, for half an hour, then came again a-head.

At 5 PM It clearing up ſaw the Iſland *Clara* bearing SE; Stood off all night, in the morning could not fetch

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fetch in with *it*, as I propoſed to ⊣⊢ under its Lee; brought it however to bear SW about 9 in the morning, we then had 29 fm. *Sandy ground*; bore away NE along the Coaſt Of a *large Iſland*, that lyes in a direction pretty near NNE and SSW. between the Iſland *Clara* and the *Main Land* of *Tannaſerim*; at the N Extremity is a *Small Iſland*, with a *Rock*, like a *Mallay's Prow under Sail*, cloſe to *It*. Luffed up cloſe to it in 15 fm. *Sandy ground*. *It* then bore SW; before Noon we ⊣⊢, in 15 fm. *Mud*, further on behind *another ſmall Iſland*. Coming thus far from near *Clara* we had gradual ſoundings, *ſandy ground*, ſometimes with *Mud* mixt, from 29 to 15 fms. a Stout Ship could very well have ⊣⊢ in with *Clara* bearing SW, and be ſheltered from the Swell.

Thurſday 3d. Squally Rainy weather untill morning, then fine Weather. Shifted farther in, to 7 fm. *Muddy bottom*.

At Noon had a ſevere Squall, with rain as uſual, ſhifted farther in, to 7 fm. *muddy bottom*; lay here untill the 13th. having moſtly ſqually weather, but the ſqualls were of ſhort continuance, with fair intervals, cool and pleaſant, with a clouded ſky; whilſt without, there was all the appearance of ſtrong gales and much rain; but I ſtill expected, as the Veſſel was ſtrong and tight, having hitherto, tho' often in very bad Weather, made no water, to be able to get to the Southward and Weſtward, to proſecute My Voyage, and hoped to have the ſame ſmooth water under the Lee of the *Great*

Andaman,

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Andaman, as I found under this *Large Iſland*, near which we lay (cloſe to a ſmall one) to the Eaſtward of which I could, at a great diſtance, ſee, what I took for, the *Main Land* of Mergui.

11th. Saw today 2 Prows under Sail, to the Eaſtward of us they ſteered NE being about 6 Miles diſtant.

I gave the Name of *Olive Iſland* to *that* near which we lay, *It* is hardly a mile round, with choice of Timber trees, has *Freſh water* and a *fine ſoil*, upon Strata of Marble and Slate, cloſe to 4 fm. ſmooth water: we planted here ſeveral *Peach Stones*, from *Bengal*, alſo *Mango ſtones*, and named *It* from the *fruit* we found there, both green and black, being the *true Olive*; the long Iſland I called *Sulivan's Iſland*.

13th. Tryed with the *Tide* to get to the *Weſtward*, but was obliged to return; as the *Tides* are only felt cloſe to the Land. It flows here full and change about 1 o'Clock, And the Spring Tides riſes about 10 feet perpendicular. The Latitude of *Olive Island* is 11° 20′ N near *Olive Iſland*, is a *ſmall Iſland*, which I call *Rat Iſland*, there is a narrow *Strait* between them, with 4 fm. water; WbN of *Olive Iſland*, half a League, is *Button Iſland*, ſo called from its ſhape, and further to the WNW is *Two-Hill Iſland*, about the ſame diſtance, as this laſt mentioned, is the remarkable *Rock* like a *Prow under Sail* already ſpoken of. South from *Olive Iſland* about 2 Miles, is a ſmall *ſhallow Bay*, where we found

an

1783 July an old Canoe, and ſeveral other marks of People that had been there, *plenty* of *Timber*, ſtore of *Bamboes* and *good water*.

Seeing an extenſive Coaſt towards the SSE and hoping to make diſcoveries of greater importance than I at firſt expected that way, as the Tides were regular, running along ſhoar about 3′ ℔ Hour, on the ſprings, and deſpairing of getting to the weſtward, where I was certain of a foul wind, and no tide, unleſs I kept on the weather ſide of the *Great Iſland*, a thing impoſſible; for theſe reaſons I reſolved to go within, where there was a weather ſhoar, ⊕ Ground, *regular tides*, and a *wide Channel*.

But before I proceed I muſt refer the reader back to certain *Views* of *Land*, already taken, which as the Elevation of a Houſe ought to correſpond with the Plan, theſe Views, I hope, will be found to correſpond with the Map. Letters B and C give two Views of the *Preparis Iſlands*, the firſt Land I made; Letter A is a *View* of the *Cocos*, South of the *Preparis*, taken whilſt on another Voyage, this time I did not ſee them, falling to Leeward; N°. 1 gives *Clara Iſland* (ſee the common Directory) and ſome *rocky Iſlots* near it and ſome *Other Iſlands* that lay ESE of *It*. N°. 2 is *Sulivan's Iſland*, ſeen from between *Clara* and *It*, from 25 fm. *ſand*; with another view of *Clara*, marked alſo N°. 2; and here I muſt obſerve, that, in theſe Views, when there are two or three numbered alike,

it

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it ſignifies that they were ſeen at the ſame time, or from the ſame ſpot. N° 4 ſhews *Rat Iſland*, *Two-Hill Island*, *Button Island* and *Olive Iſland*, from cloſe to one of the *Dolphin Iſlands*, alſo what I call the *Cap*, being like a *Jockey's Cap* a good way off, but which is not in the *Map*, its true diſtance being unknown.

N° 5 ſhews the *Dolphin Iſlands*, from near to *Breaker Iſland*. At the ſame time a *remarkable Saddle*, on *Sullivan Island* bears SW½W.

N° 6 ſhews the *Eaſt Foreland*, and the *Land* far to the Southward of *It*; and N° 8 the ſame *Foreland*, with ſeveral *Iſlands*, ſpecified in the View, to the Northward of it.

N° 7 rather irregularly placed, being taken when I attempted to go out, but returned on the 13th, as has been ſaid, ſhews part of *Olive Iſland*, the *Button* and *Two-Hill Iſland*. I now go back to *Olive Iſland*, near which in N° 9, *Jockey Cap* being ſhut out of the View behind the N point of the *Iſland* (high Land), an *Island* bears NbE 15 miles off by Computation, and another *high Iſland*, like *Clara* in height, appears bearing NEbE½E, whilſt the *Main* (if what is drawn bearing SE½S is the *Main Land)* appears far off.

N° 13 ſhews the *Entrance* of a *Harbour*, which I call *Marble Harbour*, and the Iſland that forms it is *Marble Iſland*, from the Quantity of that ſtone I found there.

All

1783 July All along, from *Clara* hitherto, the Navigation muſt be ſafe, eſpecially in the SW Monſoon; during the NE Monſoon, the weather muſt be fine, conſequently the Navigation both ſafe and agreable. The *large Iſland*, *Sulivan*, keeps off the SW blaſts, and, as I have ſaid, it is often fair without hot Sun-ſhine, which makes it pleaſant, and it ſeems to be a fine climate and favourable to vegetation.

In the *View* N° 10, the Land bearing SEbE, muſt be the *Main Land*, being the ſame that in N° 9 is ſeen bearing SE½S; ſeveral *low Iſlands* alſo appear in N° 10, to which I give the name of *Garden Iſlands*, having found *wild Plantains* and other *Fruits* upon them; before I got thus far, we paſſed within *Half-Moon-Shoal*, it is covered at high water, here is depth for any Ship within it; we alſo paſſed the *Eaſt Foreland*. See *Views* N° 5 & 6.

16th. On the 16th we were off *Marble Harbour*, in 10 fm. *mud*, here we ~~ſ~~, and ſent the Boat to ſurvey it, but bad weather coming on, ſhe ſoon returned, having done but little; however ſhe found a *Spit* of *ſand* run off from the *Point*, I call *Stoney Point*, with 2 fm. water on it, and 4 fm. within it *Muddy ground*

17th. On the 17th it blew very freſh, with heavy rain, the water being ſmooth, we rode faſt with half a Cable in 6 fm. near the ſhoar, the *Eaſt Foreland* bearing NWbN.

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On the 18th, we paſſed *Flat Bay*, where there is 2 fm. at near a mile diſtance from the ſhoar.

19th.

On the 19th, paſt the *South Extremity* of *Sulivan's Iſland*, lying in about 10° 50′ N Latitude, which makes it 30 miles in length from N° to S° I am pretty certain it is not above 20 in breadth. Its *South Extreme*, I call the *South Foreland*, where there is a *Narrow*, but ſeemingly *bold*, *Strait*, that ſeparates *It* from *Eyles Iſland*; I call it *Wheeler's Strait*; *Three Iſlots*, like *Buttons*, lye in the *fair way:* ſome *Iſlands*, from 6 to 10 Miles round, appear to the Weſtward, through this *Strait*. *Eyles Iſland* is 3 or 4 miles in length from North to South; but narrow from Eaſt to Weſt, it bounds *Wheeler's Strait* to the *Southward*; to the Southward of *It*, is *Foreſter's Iſland*, round in ſhape, and 2 or 3 Miles in Compaſs; then appear *Four Iſlots*, in the *Paſſage* between *It* and *Steep Iſland*, with bold Channels; here the *Flood* ſets from the Weſtward pretty ſtrong.

22d.

On the 22d we paſſed *Stable's Strait*, where the *two ſmall*, but *high*, *Iſlands*, called the *Sugar Loaf* and *Saucers*, are remarkable, alſo *Weſtminſter Hall*, near *Steep Iſland*, ſee the *Views* 2 of N° 11 and 1 of N° 12. In N° 12 a *large Iſland* appears at a diſtance, I call it *Loughborough Iſland*.

23d.

On the 23d we were abreaſt of *Macpherſon's Strait*, through which *Loughborough Iſland* again appears, between *James's Iſland* on one hand, and *Banks's Iſland* on

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on the other, in this View the *Cannister*, at the North end of *James's Island*, is remarkable, with ſome *dangerous looking Rocks* near it *above Water*; I had forgot to ſay, that abreaſt of *Steep Island* to the Eaſtward, are ſome *overfalls*, and I wiſh to obſerve that Large Ships navigating here, at leaſt untill this wide *Strait* is better known, ſhould have their Boats out, I don't pretend to have ſurveyed, but *where Soundings* are *marked*; whilſt the Ship is at ⚓, the Boats can all be uſefully and pleaſantly employed in hauling the Seine, Wooding, &c. we come now to *James's Island*, about the height of *Clara*, and twice as large, Eaſt of the *South part* are ſome *overfalls*, a League off, within a mile of it is a *ſhoal* of *ſand* and *Rocks*, *covered* at *high water*, there may be other *Dangers*.

24th. On the 24th, after heavy Squalls of rain, had a light breeze from the Eaſtward, with which I ſtood towards an *Iſland* to the Southward, which I call *Flatt Iſland*; ⚓ near a little *Button Iſland*, that lyes cloſe to its Eaſtern Point, in 6 fm. water. Saw a *deal* of *Sea weeds* cloſe to us in 2 fm. water, ſprouting from *Coral Rocks*, we therefore weighed and ſtood round this *Button Rock*, leaving it on the left hand, and ⚓ abreaſt of *Flatt Iſland* in 9 fm. *Mudd*, ſee *View* N° 15.

The *Bonnet Iſlands* near which we lay, of which there are *Five*, are remarkable; the *Tide* ſets ſtrong between them, through *Alderſey's Strait*, the Flood from the

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the Weſtward, the Ebb to the Southward; here between the 3d and 4th *Bonnets*, which lye cloſe together, we found abundance of *large Oyſters*, at low water, Spring Tides; and ſmall Ones, at all times; on *full* and *change* it is *high water* here at 12 o'Clock, the *Tide* riſing about 11 feet perpendicular. We lay here untill the 1ſt Auguſt having freſh gales from the SW, but little rain.

We could ſee, what I took to be, *Dommel Iſland*, mentioned in the Directory, bearing NE.

Flatt Iſland extends only from E to W about one mile and half, we ſent the Boat on ſhoar frequently, and planted *Peach* and *Mango Stones* and other *ſeeds*, we alſo croſſed it, and found various *Fruits*, the *St. Helena Yam*, called by the Mallays *Clody*, a kind of red Berry agreable to eat, Wild *Plantain*, *Bamboes*, *Rattans*, and *tall Timber Trees*, growing in abundance; here is alſo good *freſh water*, iſſuing from a *rocky Eminence*, about the middle of the North Coaſt of the *Island*, near the *Rocky Button*, already mentioned; ſee *View* N°. 15, the ſoil is various, black mould and clay mixed with ſand, altogether I take it to be very healthy, good water, no ſwamps, and well ventilated at all times.

Was a Ship in diſtreſs to run behind this *Archipelago*, where on every Iſland Maſts may be cut, I would recommend this *Island*, to ſend their ſick upon, the Oyſters

1783
July Oyſters at the *Bonnet Islands* are inexhauſtible, and plenty of Fiſh to be caught by hook or by ſeine, we alſo went upon *James's Island*, where are remarkable *large trees*, there we ſaw many prints of the feet of *wild Hogs* or *Deer*.

29th. On the 29th, we could perceive the *Shoal*, already mentioned, to the Southward of where we lay, *dry* for the extent of half a mile, I call it *Bowen's ſhoal*, from Mr. *Bowen*, my ſecond Officer, who firſt diſcovered it.

Auguſt 1ſt. On Saturday, the 1ſt Auguſt, we weighed with the ebb Tide, and worked between *Flatt Iſland* and *Saddle Iſland*, ſaw the large *Iſland* S^t. *Mathew* far off, bearing South; a little to the SW of *Shaggy Rock*, which lyes SE of *Flatt Iſland* a ſhort mile, in working, we ſuddenly fell from 10 to 6 fm. in a *ſtrong Race* of a *Tide*, with *Breakers*, immediately tacked, worked on, and paſſed the *Nine-pins*, the *Naked-Hump* and the *Needles*. See *Views* N°. 15 and 17.

At ½ paſt 5, being about 2 miles Weſt of *Cat Iſland*, the Sea open to the Weſtward, we had a moſt ſevere Squall from that quarter, which obliged us to run under a Fore-ſail clued up, behind a little *Button Iſlot*, which I call the *Kitten*, cloſe to *Cat Iſland*, and, juſt before dark, ⚓ with great ſatisfaction behind *Cat Iſland* in 20 fm, the Sea breaking over the *Needle Rocks* with great violence, our ſhelter was but indifferent.

1783
August 2d. Next day, with the Tide of Ebb ſetting Southward, we worked up towards *Pine-tree Iſland.*

At 7 in the evening ⚓ in 18 fm. *Mud*, weighed i n the morning.

3d. At day-light worked up, and ⚓ in 13 fm. *Mud*, one mile and half from the *Iſland*, its *main Body* bearing SSW, ſent the boat on ſhoar, ſaw on the ſand, the print of the Clow * foot of an Animal pretty large.

This *Iſland* is lower than *Flatt Iſland*; NW of it, and near it, is a *dangerous Shoal*; off the Weſt end of it, and, I believe, joining to the ſaid *dangerous Shoal*, is a *Reef* of *Rocks*, on which are *two large Stones*, viſible at a good diſtance, I call them the *two Centinels*; cloſe to the SW part of this *Iſland*, is a *rocky Button*, the Eaſt end of the *Iſland* is bold; to the Eaſtward and Northward extends a *fine Brown ſandy Beach*, but its Weſt end is very *dangerous*, I call it *Pine-Tree Iſland*, on account of the number of trees like pine-trees that grow there, the Mallays call them *Caiu Aroo*, they grow generally at the mouths of Barred Rivers.

From this *Iſland* we ſaw many *large* and *ſmall*, the *Large Iſlands* were *Sulivan's* and *James's*, which we had left to the NNW, S^t^. *Mathew's* to the SSW, the viſiting of which we had in expectation; we alſo ſaw *many ſmall*, the *Five Iſlands* to the SE, the SE *Hump* and the NW *Hump*, and *Four Saddle Iſlands*, which form the Southern

* Clow, qu? cloven? *or* claw?

1783

August Southern boundary of *Alderſey's Strait*, in one with *James's Iſland* to the WNW, *Flatt Iſland*, *Cat Iſland*, and *Saddle Iſland* to the Northward, *Canniſter* and *Turret Iſlots* to the Eaſt and North Eaſt, and the *Main Land* beyond; to the WbN *Saddle-Hill Iſland*, and to the SW and SSW *ſeveral Iſlands*, in a line with S^t^. *Mathew*; a ſwell ſet in from the SW where we had paſſed, but where we were, that ſwell was broke off, by the *ſhoal* and *Reef* already mentioned, that lye off the Weſt part of *Pine-Tree-Iſland*.

4th. With the wind at SSW, on Tueſday 4th Auguſt, we ſtood, the Tide favoring us, to the SE; paſſed within a mile of the *Northmoſt* of the *Five Iſlands*, had regular ſoundings from 16 to 9 fm.

At 6 PM ⚓ in ſight of the *Beach* of the *Main Land* in 8 fm. *Mud*, ſix miles from ſhoar,

Pine Tree-Iſland bearing . . .	WNW½N:
The *Southern Extreme* of S^t^. *Mathew* .	SSW

all night had the wind at SSW.

At 5 AM weighed but gained no ground, ⚓ again in 10 fm. *Mud*, 8 miles from the *Main Land*, and from the *Northmoſt* of the *Five Iſlands* 2 miles, *It* bearing WbS, Latitude 10° 13′ N

5th. On the 5th, the wind came from the Weſtward and the weather threatened. Veered away a whole cable, and rode pretty eaſy all night.

At

1783

August At 7 in the morning, weighed and bore away for our former ſtation behind *Flatt Iſland*, returning without *Saddle Iſland*, where we found regular *mud* foundings.

6th. On the 6th, behind *Flatt Iſland*, it blew very freſh.

At 2 PM a Prow, in appearance an Acheen Prow, having 2 Maſts with 8 or 10 Men on board, came in between *Flat* Iſland and the *Bonnets*, ſeeing us, they ſuddenly ſtood to the Northward, and ⟛ beyond *Bowen's Shoal*, on the *Coaſt* of *James's Iſland*, in an indifferent Birth; I ſuſpect they were afraid of us, elſe, in ſuch bad weather as it then was, they would not ſurely have paſſed ſo ſmooth a road as behind *Flatt Island*; I ſhould have been very glad to converſe with them, as hitherto we had met no human Creature.

7th. On the 7th it blew very freſh, veered away a whole cable.

8th. Saturday the 8th, ſtill blowing freſh from the SW, ſent however the boat for a load of Oyſters. Next day ſent her for water, being moderate.

10th. On the 10th, though there was a great ſea without, we heeled and ſcrubbed the Veſſel's bottom, very full of Barnicles.

12th. At 8 AM, of Wedneſday 12th of Auguſt, we weighed and worked out, within *Saddle Island*, and paſſed near the *Naked Hump*.

At

1783
Auguſt

At Noon, the wind having favoured us, we were again off the Eaſtward of *Pine-tree Island*, within a quarter mile of the ſhoar, in 12 fm. *mud*, ſaw the *Shoal* to the SW of the *Island*, and ran over part of it in 4 fm. *ſand*, ſaw alſo *dry*, the *Reef* of *Rocks*, to the Weſt of the *Island*, with the *two Centinels*, which have been already mentioned.

Stood on with the wind at WSW, and ſtemmed the Flood.

At 1 PM, falling little wind, we ⊣⊢.

13th. Next Day, the 13th, at ½ paſt 1 PM, we paſſed cloſe to the *Eaſt End* of the *SE Hump*, where there is on the NE part of that *Hill-Iſland*, a beautiful *ſpot* of *green graſs*, cloſe to a large Bank of bright ſand, in which ſeveral Poſts were ſtuck, as moorings for Prows, &c. that had been there, we found the ſame at *Flatt Iſland*; within muſquet ſhot of this *Green Spot* we had 13 fm. *Mud.* Stood on, cloſe to the Wind, SbE and SSE, in 15 fm. water *ſoft ground*, and paſſed within one mile of the *S°. Hump.*

At 4 PM ⊣⊢ in 14 fm. water, The *Helmet and S°. Hump* in one bearing NW, perceived many *ſmall Iſlands*, near the *Main Land*, bearing ESE; *freſh water*, *diſcolouring* the *Sea*, came from amongſt them, indicating *Rivers* that way.

From where we lay, the *Five Islands*, in a line, nearly bore N½E, and a *High Ridge*, or rather *Promontory*, On *St. Mathew* bore, SSW.

1783
August

I now beg leave to remark, amongſt a multiplicity of *Islands*, to which, in order to ſpeak with preciſion, it is neceſſary to give names, I have endeavoured, beſides naming many in remembrance of Friends whom I Honor and Reſpect, to call others according to *ſtriking appearances* and *figures*; So the *NW*, *SE*, and *S°*. *Humps* are expreſſive of their reſpective relative ſituations, and all three, as appear in the *Views*, are in figure much alike, but what I mean by a *Hump*, alluding to what grows on the *ſhoulders* of *Surat Oxen*, may only properly be called ſo, when the *Island* is ſeen in a certain attitude, in other attitudes it may, with equal propriety, be called the *Haycock*, the *Sugar Loaf*, &c. as the *outline* continually differs, the *three* forementioned *Humps* are very ſimilar, in ſize and ſhape and height. *Cat* Iſland looks like a *Cat ſquatted* in N°. 15, 17, and 18, in N°. 16 it is hid by *Saddle Island:* the *Naked Hump* in N°. 15, 16 and 17, where it appears twice, has *not* a *Tree upon it*, ſome of the *Bonnets* appear in N°. 11; far off they all appear in N°. 15, being *Five* in number; *North Weſt Hump*, and *Shaggy Rock*, this laſt I have great reaſon to *remember*, appears in N°. 16; the *Helmet*, *S°. Hump*, and *NW Hump* appear in N°. 21, whilſt the *SE Hump* is hid behind one of the *Five Islands*, the *Helmet*, *South Hump* and *SE Humps* appear in N°. 23, whilſt the NW *Hump* is ſhut out of the *View*, the *Five Islands* are given in three attitudes N°. 16, 21 and 23, in N°. 16 is a conjectural *Plan* of *them*, they are alſo ſeen afar off in N°. 18 and 19.

It

1783
Auguſt

It is unneceſſary for me to ſay that in N°. 18 *St. Mathew's* appears beyond *Pine Island*, &c. all this appears obviouſly from the *Views*, without which and the correſponding *Map*, this Account can be of little uſe or entertainment; One thing I am happy to reflect on, my endeavour, to make the *views* correſpond with the *Map*, has rid me of a load of *Deſcription*, which is always tedious and often obſcure, and I hope, from my firſt making *Clara Island*, that the reader will be able to travel with me, with ſatisfaction and perſpicuity, having theſe two forementioned helps before him.

Being now near the *Coaſt* of *Mergui*, I obſerved that it trends to the Weſtward of South, much more than is laid down in the Maps extant concerning it: *This Continent* appears in a view that joins to N°. 23, (itſelf not numbered) beyond the *Five Islands*, alſo in N°. 22, where *Two-Saddle Island* is repreſented.

14th. On the 14th had moderate weather, ſtood to the Southward till 3 PM, then tacked and ſtood towards *St. Mathew's*.

Sun ſett ⊕ in 15 ½ fm. *ſoft* ground

the *Helmet* bearing . . . N½W

At 5 AM Weighed, wind WbS, but the Tide turning againſt us, ⊕ in 18 fm. *Mud*.

Helmet Iſland bearing . . . . N½E, at a good diſtance
The *Dolphin's* Noſe . . . . W
The *white Rock*, which before appeared like a *boat* under *Sail*, bore . . NWbW, here we loſt an ⊕

Sent

1783 August — Sent the Boat to a *fine Bay*, W of the *Dolphin's Noſe*, I call it *Fiſh Harbour*, it reaches a good way into the Iſland, is ſhallow, except at the Mouth, where is 4 fm. water *ſoft* ground.

15th. — On the 15th, weighed and ſtood to the Southward, diſcovered on the SE Quarter of the *Island St. Mathew*, certain *high Rocky Islands*, their ſides making in bold *Forelands* (very like thoſe I once ſaw off *Efbee Harbour* N of *Ceram*.) One of the higheſt I call the *Cupola Rock*, from it having like a *Turret* a-*Top*, when ſeen in a certain Attitude: the wind was moſtly SW; I did not find the Tide ſet ſo ſtrong as I expected, At 5 in the evening a Squall coming on, ⊕ in 15 fm. *ſoft ground.*

The *Cupola Rock* bearing .	SW½S
The *Dolphin's Noſe* . .	N 6 or 7 Miles, being four or five miles off ſhoar. See *Views* N° 25, 26, 27, 28.

Lay at ⊕, untill one in the morning, then weighed with the wind at SWbS.

At 6 ⊕ in 18 fm. *Soft ground.*

The *Cupola Rock* bearing . . .	SWbS
The *Dolphin's Noſe*	NNE

the nearer *St. Mathew* we found the deeper water, but all ſoft *Mud*, no hard caſts, not even *ſand*, had frequent ſqualls with rain all night

16th. — On the 16th, weighed with the Ebb, PM and worked to the Southward of the *Cupola*, bringing it to bear N 4 or 5 miles diſtant; ⊕ again in 18 fm. *mud.*

At

1783
August

At 2 AM. weighed with the wind at South, made ſeveral tacks, but gained little, as a ſwell now came round the South End of S^t. *Mathews*, ⚓ at 7 AM in 18 fm. *ſoft* ground, The *Cupola Rock* being in one with the *High Land* of St. *Mathew*, See the *Views*, N°. 27, 29, 30, 31. we were now in ſight of the *Islands Aladine*, See the *Directory*, they lye from 10°. to 35′ N Latitude [a] in a N^o. and South Direction; a great Sea coming in from the SW, with threatening weather and much rain, fearing the loſs of an another ⚓, as our cables in Uſe were by this time pretty much worn, We weighed on 17th, at half an hour paſt Noon, ſtood to the Northward of
Auguſt 17th. the *Cupola Rock*, and hauled in cloſe to St. *Mathew*, which we coaſted; and, juſt before dark, ⚓ behind *Tongue Island*, in 10 fm. *Mud*, about half a mile from the ſhoar.

The *High Land* of St. *Mathew* bore now W of us, being cloſe under it, dark thick clouds gathering upon it, about midnight they broke on us, with a very heavy ſquall, which made the Veſſel drive a good way out of the *Bay*, nothing but the ſeverity of the wind made us drive, as the water was perfectly ſmooth, weighed in the morning of the 18th, and ⚓ again in the *Bay*, in 12 fm. *muddy*
18th. *ground*; ſent the boat for *water*, to a *ſort* of *Caſcade*, bearing NW of where we lay, near which, on a *ſpot* of *level ground* further North, the Laſcars found ſome freſh *dung* of *Elephants*, and brought it on board, but we ſaw *none*, nor any other *Animal*.

F In

[a] There is obvioufly a miſtake here.

1783
Auguſt.

In this *Bay*, ſo near the *Higheſt Land* of St. *Mathew*, we had almoſt continual Rain, ſometimes ſhowers, ſo thick that at a diſtance they looked like ſheets of water, came down and fell near us, ſometimes were drove paſt, and now and then fell upon us in very heavy rain, for 3 or 4 minutes, but no alternate hot Sunſhine, as in ſome parts of the Weſt-Indies, which would have been very diſagreable, the Sun ſeldom appearing; here we took in ſome *Stone Ballaſt*, and on St. *Mathew* picked up a parcel of *Dammer*.

This Island, which I call *Tongue Island* from its figure, may be about 1 mile in length, its North Coaſt and Eaſt Point are bold, any Ships may lye cloſe within It; and in the SW Monſoon, might heave down, it is ſo ſmooth; heaping up ſome *Rocks*, to make it *dry* at *high water*, at the edge of deep water; it is like moſt of the *Islands* here about, almoſt entirely covered with *Trees*; the Eaſt Point is partly clear, being covered over with *Trees*, for a very little way, and may be approached within Piſtol ſhot: See *View* N° 22. On the Weſt Extremity the *wood* is thin, and the ground gently riſing, here is a *Strait*, a muſquet ſhot acroſs, paſſable by boats only, the *Channel Rocky*; on the Springs the Tide riſes about 10 feet, running three and four Knots paſt the Eaſt Point of the Iſland; the height of the *higheſt* Land on St. *Mathew's* hereabouts may be about 1200 yards.

1783.
Auguſt 20th. Untill the 20th we had not an opportunity to get our Sails dryed. On that day at 6 in the morning we weighed, and bore away for the *Dolphin's Noſe*, intending to go into *Fiſh Harbour* near it, of which mention has been made, until the weather broke up.

22d. On the 22d unexpectedly we had fine clear weather, wind ESE. Stood South.

At 7 AM.

The *Dolphin's Noſe* bore . . NbW

before Noon the Wind came to the SSW, but, the weather being very clear and fine, gave up thoughts of a *Harbour*, and ſtood towards the *Main*, to windward of *Two-Saddle Island*. As I approached the *Main*, the Wind
23d. came more favourable, and about 5 Afternoon, ⊕ between the ſaid *Two Saddle-Iſland* and *That* next South of It, which I call *Deliſle's Iſland*, in 7 fm. *ſandy* ground.

The Extremes of *Land* in ſight bearing from N½E
to SWbS.

Theſe *two Iſlands*, juſt mentioned, formed the *Opening* of ſeemingly a very *fine Harbour*, but at its *Entrance* I found ſome *Overfalls*, of 2 and 3 fms at a Caſt, but not *rocky ground*. See *Views* N°. 36 and 37, from where we lay

The *Dolphin's Noſe* bore . . NNW½W
And the *Cupola Rock* . . . W½N

1783
August At 6 next morning, weighed with a light Breeze at SSW, and ſtood on with the Ebb Tide.; about 8 unexpectedly, It came to blow from the SW with rainy
24th. ſqualls, bore away for the *Dolphin's Noſe*; and at 4 PM of the 24th, ⚓ in 3 fm. *Mud* in *Fiſh Harbour*.

The *White Rock* bearing EbN about ¼ mile.

Returning from *Deliſle's Iſland* this way, I regretted I had not yeſterday ſtood behind that *Iſland*, where aſſuredly there was ſhelter, It was not now prudent to go back with threatning weather, whilſt I knew where I could be perfectly ſecure, in a *Harbour* better known, the deſire of viſiting the unknown is often very ſtrong, and I thought it time loſt to return where I had been before, yet to my being baulked this time, I owe the fortunate diſcovery of one of the *fineſt Harbours* in the *World*, which before I had overlooked, paſſing this way, for I took that part of St. *Mathew*, which forms the *Harbour*, for a *ſeperate Iſland*.

25th. On the 25th Auguſt, whilſt on board of the Veſſel they were variouſly employed in mending rigging, ſails, &c. I went in the Boat into *Haſtings's Harbour*, where I found *regular ſoundings*, *ſoft* ground from 5 to 10 fm. *It* is about 4 miles in length and 3 in breadth, is ſheltered by St. *Mathew's Iſland*, that encloſes It for 3 quarters of the Compaſs, and *ſeveral Iſlands* perfectly ſhut it up, on the fourth quarter, the NE, from all Winds; the Flood ſets from the Weſtward, round *Bengal Point*, and the *Bay* being full, much of the contents ſet Eaſt, on the Ebb,

1783
August Ebb, between *Haſtings's Iſland* and the *white Rock*, then NNE, as marked in the Chart; whilſt a counter Tide ſets regular, the Flood to the Northward and the Ebb to the Southward, next the Island North of St. *Mathew*; here the Spring Tides lift 11 foot perpendicular, they are not violent, running only 3 and 3½ Knots, and it is *high Water* at *Full* and *Change* at about 2 o'Clock.

From on board the Veſſel in *Fiſh Bay*, we at Night heard the noiſe of ſome large Animal on St. *Mathew's*, It was a hoarſe roar, at a great diſtance in the woods, The Laſcars ſaid it was a *Tyger*; about a mile from the *White Rock*, SW, within *Fiſh Harbour*, there is a *Flatt Rock*, *dry* at *high Water*, with *Snipes* and other *Birds* frequenting it: it has 3 fm. ſoft ground cloſe to it, here a Ship with ſafety might heave down, better than at *Tongue Island*, before hinted at: the Ship's Lumber being on the *Rock*, where there is room enough.

27th. We left *Fiſh Harbour* on the 27th at Night, having employed the 26th in Fiſhing, with a good Seine, we could have caught great quantities in the upper ſhallow Creeks, but we were badly provided in that article; finding the Tide, when the *Dolphin's Noſe* bore SWbS, ſet NNE, we ⊕ in 15 fm. *Mud*, it continued running to NNE many hours, weighing ⊕ and running towards *Barwell's Island*, I found an oppoſite Tide ſett South, having paſſed *Barwell's Island*, we worked cloſe to *Horſe-Shoe Iſland*, where, in the *little Bay*, there is *good water*.

1783
Auguſt

Afterwards, working to the Southward, for the NNE, almoſt perpetual, ſtream, of which at night I was not ſufficiently aware, had made us loſe ground, we went over a *ſhoal* of *Coral Rocks*, on which we had only 2 fm. It lyes off the SE part of *Haſtings's Iſland*, and near *it*, cloſe without it, had 5 fm. *ſoft*, then 6, 7, 8 and 10 fm. *Mud*, all is clear to the E and SE of the ſaid *Shoal*, except the *white rock*, which is ſeven foot high at leaſt, even at high water, and bold within Piſtol ſhot. The *ſhoal*, near *Haſtings's Island*, of *Coral Rocks*, I call *Brown's Shoal*, from Mr. Francis Brown my 1ſt Officer who ſaw it firſt, it is but *ſmall* tho' *dangerous*; there may be other *Paſſages* into *this Harbour*, but I acknowledge I have not examined them, one thing may be depended on, there is ↢↣ ground, tho' deep, 40 to 50 fm, without *St. Mathew*; this I found in a *former voyage*, and it agrees with what I have heard, this circumſtance of ↢↣ ground *without*, makes the approaching this *Archipelago* the ſafer.

28th. On the 28th, had the wind from SE, worked to the Southward, along the *Coaſt* of *St. Mathew*.

29th. On the 29th, the wind came again to the SSW, but the weather was moderate.

At 6 in the Evening ↢↣ in 15 fm. *Mud*.

The *Dolphin's Noſe* bearing . N
and *Tongue Iſland* . . . . W½S

On

1783 August

On the 30th, had fine weather, with the wind at SbW, worked to Windward, with the Ebb Tide.

At ½ paſt 6 PM, the Flood coming in from the Southward, ⊕ in 18 fm. *mud*,

Tongue Iſland bearing . NbW
The *Cupola Rock* bearing . W diſt. 4 Miles

At 1 in the Morning, weighed with the Tide of Ebb, having light airs from the SSW, At ½ paſt 6 anchored in 18 fm. *mud*.

The *Cupola Rock* bearing . NW
and The *Cock's-comb Rock* bearing W 7 or 8 miles

weighed again at 11 and at Noon

Deliſle's Harbour bore . ENE
The *Cock's-comb Rocks* . WbN having then 17 fm. *ſand*

Untill Sun[a] of the 31ſt of Auguſt, we had a moderate breeze, from the weſtward, the *Dolphin's Noſe*
31ſt. from our Deck was then juſt out of ſight bearing N½E, and

Alexander's Iſland, the S°moſt of the *Aladines*, bore . WSW depth 13 fm. *ſand* and *mud*

Lying up SW, wind WNW

At 8 PM, had Light Airs and Calms, with dark clouds gathering in the NW Quarter, ⊕ in 13 fm. *ſand*, the Tide being againſt us.

At 3

[a] an omiſſion here.

1783
Sept. 1st. At 3 in the morning, with a freſh breeze from the Weſtward, and ſome rain, weighed and ſtood to the Southward into 11 fm. *mud* and *ſand*, we then tacked and ſtood to the Weſtward, and At 8, finding the Tide done, ⊕ in 14 fm. *ſand*.

The *Cupola Rock* bearing . . NbE½E
The *Peak* on *Alexander's Iſland* . SW abt. 12 miles off

fine moderate weather, wind SW

At Noon 1ſt, weighed with the wind at SSW, and ſtood to the Eaſtward, into 10 fm. *ſand*, about 5 or 6 miles from the ſhoar, E of us, lay a *group* of *Four Islands*, *Three* of them, *pretty high*, I call the *Three Sugar-loaves*.

At Sun ſet, the wind enabled us to lay up S° and SSW.

Stood on till 8, then finding the Tide ſet NE, ⊕ in 8 fm. *ſand*. In the morning there appeared a *long pleaſant Island*, with no *Hills* but *gentle riſings*, I call it *Keble's Island*, its Extremes bore from SbE to E; to the Northward of It, is a *Hummock Island*, with a *white Rock* disjunct from it a ſhort mile, See *View* N° 40 where, to the left, *Two* of the *Sugar Loafs*, already mentioned, appear pretty cloſe together, at the extreme of the *View* N° 40 appears a *diſtant remarkable Peak*; the ſame *Sugar Loafs* appear in N° 38, where poſſibly what I call the *Shoulder* in N° 38, is the *diſtant*

remarkable

1783
Sept. *remarkable Peak* in N.° 40, there is a great reſemblance between the *white Rock* in N.° 40 and *That* which lyes at the *mouth* of *Fiſh Harbour*, See *Views* N.° 26 and 33, to the Eaſtward of *Hay's Island*, near which the *white Rock* lyes, there is a *deep Bay*, extending for 8 or 10 Miles by computation, The *white Rock* off *Hay's Island* lyes in Latitude 9.° 5′ N.

2d. Kept working to the Southward, with moderate weather, taking advantage of the Tide. At Sun ſet of Wedneſday the 2d Sept. we were in 9 fm. *ſand.*

The Extremes of *Keble's Iſland* bearing . . S.°
Alexander Iſland . . . . . W½N

I ſuſpect, that what I lay down as *one Island* with that Name having a *peaked Hill* on it, is a group of 3 or 4 Iſlands, there muſt certainly be good roads for ſhipping between them, and doubtleſs where all round the ground is good, it cannot be ſuſpected there to be bad. At ½ paſt 7 ⊕ in 7 fm. *ſand.*

At 2 in the morning, weighed and worked to the Southward, with the Ebb Tide, and at 8 came to ⊕ in 10 fm.

The *Peak* on *Alexander's Iſland* bearing . WbN

At ⊕ we could juſt ſee *Sayer Islands.*

A Spirt of Wind coming from the NW, at 10 AM weighed, but in ½ an hour came to ⊕ again, in the ſame

1783
Sept. depth, 10 fm *ſand.* Could ſee Land to the Southward, which I take to be *Junk Ceylon.*

3d. On Thurſday 3d September, had variable Winds from SW to WNW with ſome rain, weighed and lay up to the Southward, ſometimes SSW.

At ⊙ ſet

The *Iſland* I took to be one of the *Sayers* (A *Hump* by itſelf) bore WNW

At 8 we ⊣⊢ in 10 fm. *ſand,* it was pretty moderate all night, with a ſwell from the WSW.

At 3 in the morning weighed, with the wind at Weſt, [a] ſtood WNW, with the Ebb Tide under our Lee, the Wind then heading us, as we wiſhed, tacked and ſtood SW and SSW, had freſh ſqualls at times with rain.

At 8 AM, ſaw a *ſpot* of *Breakers,* extending about ½ a mile, they lye diſtant from the *Main* about 3 or 4 miles, and were from the Veſſel 2 Miles; This *Bank* of *ſand* or *Rocks* (we could not diſtinguiſh, on which the Sea broke very high) lay in a NNE and SW direction, about 1 mile in length, bearing from the *Hump,* already mentioned as being one of the *Sayers,* E½S. [b]

The *Entrance* of a *Bay,* on the *Main,* bore from this *ſhoal* EbS, at the *Mouth* of *which* is a *perpendicular Rock,* very remarkable; on the North Side of the *Entrance* of *this Bay,* the *Trees* are *as even* as a *clipped Hedge,* like the

[a] Qu? SW. [b] This is not agreable to the *Chart.* AD

1783
Sept. the *Lands* on *Sumatra*, near *Lucipara*, and on the South Entrance they are gently riſing. See *Views* N°. 41.

I take this Bay to be near that part of the *Coaſt*, called *Baniger* in the *Directory*. Hence we could ſee an *Island*, that is alſo laid down in the Directory, 4 leagues Weſt of the North part of *Junk Ceylon*, It bore SbE a good way off.

4th. At ⊙ ſet, Friday the 4th, the *Hump*, already mentioned, being next South of *Alexander's Island*, bore NWbW, from 22 fm. *ſand* and *mud*, lay up W and WNW, had much rain in the night; the wind ſhifting to WbN and WNW about 1 in the morning, with freſh ſqualls and a great Sea, kept under Courſes with the the Fore-top Sail ſometimes ſet; towards morning the wind ſtill favoured us, and I ſuſpect a current alſo, for At day-light I ſaw, with great ſatisfaction, the *Island* mentioned, as lying off the *North part* of *Junk Ceylon*, bearing Eaſt, and the *Extremes* of *Junk Ceylon*, from SSE½E to NEbN, having then 32 fm. *ſand* and *mud*, the *Islands* of *Sayer* out of ſight.

5th. On the 5th, had hard ſqualls from the W and WNW, with which we weathered *Pulo Rajah*, and bore away for *Queda*, having had no freſh Proviſions for many days; found *P°. Rajah* bear from *P°. Bouton* NW, in

the

1783 Sept. the *Directory* it lies NbW½W, had a ſtrong Current in our favour, ſetting SSE, and a ſtiff gale at NWbW, from the South part of *Junk Ceylon* to *Queda*.

Esther Brige, *March* 19th. 1784.

THOMAS FORREST.